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FORECAST

TODAY MON TUE
63°/56° 73°/61° 77°/66°
Complete forecast, A2

LIVING



Brookhaven students look to uplift, support

Five 12-year-olds at Brookhaven Middle School decided to address an issue they see every day: low self-esteem. Armed with a website and their own stories of overcoming bullying, the students hope to encourage, uplift and support their peers. They call themselves the Ugly Duckling Society. E1

RIVERFRONT

Library director wants to move Alabama Room

Decatur Public Library Director Sherry Sakovich is seeking City Council permission to move the Alabama Room and make structural changes to the aging library. The council is scheduled to consider Sakovich's proposed changes Monday. B1

COMING MONDAY

Teacher on paid leave would still get a raise

A Decatur teacher who was charged with two counts of a school employee having sex with a student may get a \$1,270 pay raise if the proposed state education budget passes. Carrie Witt has been on paid leave from Decatur High School since her arrest on March 21, 2016.

AREA DEATHS

Linda Hicks, Athens
Sharon Kuntz, Tanner
Gladys Sandlin, Athens
Joy Simpson, Somerville
Cecelia Williams, Decatur
Sybil Wilson, Decatur
Death notices, obits, C7

Abby E4 Living E1
Books E3 Lotteries C3
Business D1 Obituaries C7
Classified F1 Riverfront B1
Crossword E2 Sports C1
Editorials A4 Weather A2
Horoscopes E4

Decatur, Alabama
106th year, No. 358
38 pages, 6 sections



SWEETWATER PROPERTY

Ala. 20 overpass seen as key

Officials say a bridge is necessary for the development of area

By Eric Fleischauer
Metro Editor

A bridge over Alabama 20 that would have been central to a Bass Pro-anchored development several years ago is receiving renewed attention as litigation

preventing sale of the surrounding property winds down.

Last month's announcement of a planned 4,000-employee Toyota-Mazda plant 4 miles east of the former Bass Pro site, plus Polaris and Bocar locating even closer to the Decatur-annexed property in Limestone County, have added to the urgency of preparing the Alabama 20 corridor for development.

The building of a bridge across Alabama 20 that allows traffic

to exit to properties north and south of the busy and dangerous highway appears even more important than it was a decade ago, when Bass Pro first eyed the property.

After starts and stops, the courtship of Bass Pro and developer Genesis USA collapsed and ended up in court in late 2014, and the carefully designed bridge was never built.

"We're in a different era today," said Wally Terry, director



Terry

of development for Decatur. "Now we're in an era where the traffic and the demands that are going to be placed

on (the south) side of the river to serve the new plants and to develop that property dictate that we move forward."

SEE KEY, A3

HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL TOURNAMENTS

Putting on a game face



Priceville student Abby Moore cheers for the Bulldogs during a Class 4A girls semifinal game at the Northwest Regional at Wallace State on Saturday. Priceville fell to No. 1-ranked Deshler, 61-42. Game story and more high school basketball on C1. [CRYSTAL VANDER WEIT/DECATUR DAILY]

FEEDING INMATES

Officials disagree on jail food

By Eric Fleischauer
Metro Editor

Morgan County voters will consider a constitutional amendment in November that lawmakers hope will put an end to long-running turmoil over the sheriff's ability to pocket money received for the feeding of inmates, and some see it as a model for statewide legislation.

Others, however, say any statewide change to the 1939 law that allows most Alabama sheriffs to personally keep unspent food money must include an increase in the \$1.75 per day the state gives sheriffs to feed jail inmates.

SEE JAIL, A3

FLORIDA SHOOTING

Fire alarm, then gunfire: stay or flee?

By Kantele Franko
and Jocelyn Gecker
The Associated Press

Students and teachers responded as trained when the fire alarm sounded, streaming out of the school and toward exits only to run into deadly gunfire. Two boys with stolen guns took aim from a wooded hill, waiting for people to evacuate after one of the boys had triggered a false fire alarm. They killed four children and a teacher. That was 20 years ago at Arkansas' Westside Middle School, before active-shooter drills became part of the routine for schools across America.

SEE GUNFIRE, A3



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in Today's
Classified
Section

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